Attorney Docket No. 244531US-2 CONT Inventor: Koichi Tsunoda et al.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the

following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 99-114 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-98 have been

canceled and Claims 99-114 have been added by the present amendment.

This application is a continuation of allowed parent application serial no. 10/189,232,

filed on July 5, 2002.

New Claims 99-114 have been added to set forth the invention in varying scope. In

particular, new Claims 99-114 are similar to the allowed Claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 25, 26, 37, 38,

49, 50, 61, 62, 73, 74, 84 and 85 in the parent application, but are method claims rather than

apparatus claims.

The specification has also been amended to include the same changes made in the

parent application and to include a reference to the parent application.

Consequently, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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(OSMMN 08/03) GJM/DAB/rac

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